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TO RUQMGU/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO RUFLAEA/AMCONSUL IZMIR PRIORITY 0000
RUQMPL/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 0000
RUFLEPA/AMCONSUL ADANA PRIORITY 0000
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0000
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0000
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 0000
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0000
RUDKEBU/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 0000
RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY 0000
BT
UNCLAS STATE 039097

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PTER, PINS

SUBJECT: SENATE RESOLUTION ON ARIKAN ASSASSINATION

1. ON FEBRUARY 11, U.S. SENATE ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT A RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JEREMIAH DENTON (R-ALA) "EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO THE ASSASSINATION OF KEMAL ARIKAN, A CONSUL GENERAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY ASSIGNED TO THE UNITED STATES."

2. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS ON THE FLOOR, DENTON STATED THE FOLLOWING:

"AS YOU KNOW, MR. ARIKAN WAS ATTACKED WHILE DRIVING TO WORK

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ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 29, 1982. ACCORDING TO WITNESSES, MR. ARIKAN WAS SHOT AT CLOSE RANGE BY TWO YOUNG MEN WHILE HE WAITED AT A TRAFFIC INTERSECTION. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE KILLING WAS CLAIMED BY THE JUSTICE COMMANDOS OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE, A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHOSE AVOWED PURPOSE IS TO AVENGE THE ALLEGED TERRIBLE INJUSTICE VISITED UPON THE ARMENIANS BY THE OTTOMAN RULERS OF TURKEY 65 YEARS AGO..."

3. DENTON CONTINUED:

MR. PRESIDENT, THIS RESOLUTION EXPRESSES UNEQUIVOCAL CONDEMNATION OF THIS AND ALL SUCH BRUTAL AND COWARDLY ACTS AGAINST DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL. IT EXTENDS TO THE FAMILY OF MR. ARIKAN AND THE TURKISH PEOPLE THE MOST PROFOUND SYMPATHY OF THE SENATE.

THIS DASTARDLY DEED UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HEARINGS HELD BY THE SECURITY AND TERRORISM SUBCOMMITTEE, WHICH HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING THE CAUSES, ORIGINS, THE SUPPORT OF TERRORISM. LAST SUMMER, FOR EXAMPLE, THE SUBCOMMITTEE HELD A HEARING ON TERRORISM IN TURKEY. IT BROUGHT TO LIGHT THE FACT THAT THE LARGE SCALE KILLING OF TURKISH DIPLOMATS, WHICH CONTINUES ON THE PRETEXT OF REVENGE FOR PAST MASSACRES OF ARMENIANS, IS ACTUALLY IN LARGE PART AN ATTEMPT BY THE SOVIETS TO DESTABILIZE TURKEY, A MEMBER OF NATO WHOSE TERRITORY AND WELFARE IS VITAL TO WESTERN SECURITY. MR. PRESIDENT, I ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT THAT AN EXCERPT OF THE TRANSCRIPT OF THAT JUNE 25, 1981, HEARING BE INCLUDED IN THE RECORDIMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MY REMARKS. (HEARING RECORD OMITTED.....)"

4. TEXT OF RESOLUTION FOLLOWS:

"RES 320

WHEREAS KEMAL ARIKAN, THE CONSUL GENERAL FOR THE MISSION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY IN LOS ANGELES, WAS SHOT TO DEATH ON JANUARY 28, 1982, IN LOS ANGELES;

WHEREAS ACTS OF TERRORISM DAILY CAUSE SUFFERING AND DEATH

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IN THE WORLD;

WHEREAS THE GRAVITY OF ATTACKS AGAINST REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND THE UNIVERSAL ABHORRENCE OF SUCH ATTACKS HAS BEEN EXPRESSED REPEATEDLY BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY; AND
WHEREAS FREEPEOPLE SHOULD CONDEMN SUCH BRUTALITY WHEREVER
WHEREAS FREE PEOPLE SHOULD CONDEMN SUCH BRUTALITY WHEREVER IT APPEARS AND SHOULD TAKE ALL LAWFUL STEPS TO PREVENT IT AND TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE WHO COMMIT SUCH ACTS OF TERRORISM: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, THAT THE SENATE HEREBY-

(1) CONDEMNS IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THE VICIOUS AND BRUTAL ACT OF ASSASSINATION OF KERMAL ARIKAN, A CONSUL GENERAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY AND A GUEST OF THE UNITED STATES,

ON JANUARY 28, 1982, IN LOS ANGELES;

(2) EXPRESSES ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY WITH THE FAMILY OF KEMAL ARIKAN AND WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY AND THE PEOPLE OF TURKEY IN THEIR TIME OF SORROW; AND

(3) CALLS UPON FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONDUCT, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE, AN UNCEASING INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE, TO ENGAGE IN THE PROSECUTION OF THE OFFENDERS TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT THAT THE LAW PERMITS, AND TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO DETER FUTURE ATTACKS.

SEC. 2. THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE SHALL TRANSMIT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT WITH THE REQUEST THAT HE TRANSMIT SUCH COPY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY."

5. TEXT OF JUNE 25, 1981 HEARING RECORD TO WHICH DENTON REFERS IS TEN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD PAGES LONG; WE WILL POUCH A COPY. STOESSEL

END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

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